

Infinity and Beyond

Feast of Tabernacles

(Sermon Notes) By Warren Zehrung – 9/18/2013

<http://www.sabbathcog.org/Documents/InfinityChart.pdf>

Buzz Lightyear's slogan is "To infinity --- and beyond!" I learned it from my grandkids. Buzz Lightyear is a character in the Toy Story movie series. He always says, "To infinity and beyond!" meaning that there is no limit to where he can go and what he can do.

The Scriptures reveal that **even infinity** is not a limit for the incredible Plan of God.

As a young boy I still recall my first grasp of infinity – imagining that I was going out into space until the entire star field shrank to a small circle behind me and then shooting forward twice that distance so that when I looked back there was nothing but blackness – and then I shot forward even more – thinking I'm not halfway to infinity and I shuddered at the vastness and the obscurity of dark space.

Of the increase of our eternal God's domain there will be no end.

Isaiah 57:

15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabits **eternity**, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Psalm 102:

27 But thou art the same, and thy years shall have **no end**.

God is timeless and limitless in every way.

Isaiah 40:

28 - Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the **everlasting** God.

When the Bible speaks of the infinity of God, it means that He has no limits. No end! Only Life eternally.

We are here at the Feast of Tabernacles picturing the Kingdom of God on Earth at the beginning of the Millennium.

Revelation 11:

15 ... The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and He shall reign **forever and ever**.

Forever and ever??? When we say "**Forever**" that about covers it, but the Bible adds "**and ever**"???. What is the second "ever" for? Isn't it redundant! That means all the way into eternity – does it not? Why the extra "and ever" ???

Micah 4:

5 For **all** people will walk everyone in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God **forever and ever**.

Micah 4:

7 ... and the Lord shall reign over them in mount Zion from **henceforth**, even forever.

What does God tell us to do at the Feast?

God tells us to concentrate on **Reading His Law** at the Feast of Tabernacles.

At the end of his life – when Moses was 120 years old – just before Israel was to cross the Jordan River into the Promised Land – the Torah, the First 5 books of the Old Testament, being complete:

Deuteronomy 31:

- 9** And Moses wrote this **law**, and delivered it unto the priests the sons of Levi, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and unto all the elders of Israel.
- 10** And Moses commanded them, saying, At the end of every seven years, in the solemnity of the year of release, in the **Feast of tabernacles**,
- 11** When all Israel is come to appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose, thou shalt **read this Law** before all Israel in their hearing.

Why read the Law? For what purpose? We have read it all before – but God knows there is a good reason to read the Law.

Deuteronomy 31:

- 12** Gather the people together [a convocation of the Tribes of Israel], men, and women, and children, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and **that they may learn, and revere the Lord your God**, and observe to do all the words of this **law**.

We study and read God's Law that we may learn, and revere the Lord our God.

The Church of God 'learning curve' is not what it once was – so much of God's Truth is being forgotten. The new generation has not learned what we once knew.

Deuteronomy 31:

- 13** And that their children, **which have not known anything**, may hear, and learn to revere the Lord your God, as long as ye live in the land whither ye go over Jordan to possess it.

It is no reflection on the young people – God is just stating a fact – the young adults need to learn to revere the Lord their God.

Dispensations

I need to bring in a word that we do not often use in God's Church. "Dispensations." It is a good Bible word. Dispensations are the duration of certain administrations of ways of exercising the Plan of God. Dispensations are periods of time. The Bible calls these time slots – "dispensations." Some dispensations are periods of time in which man is tested with respect to his obedience to specific revelations of the will of God. Dispensations are specific consignments from God of certain parts of **His Plan** that are to be accomplished.

Understand this: The things that God is bringing about are not the same in every age. The dispensations are progressive and interconnected major interventions of God's work to bring about His Plan for man.

The world's theologians have come up with their own list of dispensations: The dispensations of Innocence, Grace, Conscience, Human Government, Promise, Law and Kingdom.

It is not a bad list, it is just that the world's theologians have not been privy to understand the Plan of God – as we, the brethren in God's Church have been given.

If you will refer to the Infinity Chart of the **Plan of God** you will find this list of dispensations: Past Infinity, Re-Creation, Fall of Man, Fullness of Time, Millennium, Judgment, and All in All.

Not to get ahead of the story, but we brethren are living in Dispensation #4, the Fullness of Time, the time of God's intervention in which He is bringing many sons and daughters to glory (Hebrews 2:10).

We will find God's self-revelation in Ephesians.

Ephesians 1:

- 9** Having made known unto us the mystery of His Will [God's Plan], according to His good pleasure which He hath purposed in Himself:
- 10** That in the **dispensation of the Fullness of Times** He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in Him:

The world's theologians failed to list this clear **dispensation** of the "**Fullness of Times**" – even though this part of the Plan of God is spelled out right here in the Bible. That is because to the world's theologians this great understanding has not been given.

Matthew 13:

- 11** [Jesus] said unto [the disciples], Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of heaven, but to them **it is not given**.

The apostle Paul says, “This is where we come into God’s Plan.”

Ephesians 1:

- 11** In whom also **we have obtained an inheritance**, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who works all things after the counsel of His own will:

This is speaking of the first coming of Jesus Christ – the age of the Church brethren – of which we are a part. [This Infinity Chart is not a comprehensive list of Scriptures – it is only a working list, an outline, of the Plan of God.]

How did God go about establishing the **dispensation of the Fullness of Times**?

Galatians 4:

- 4** But when the **Fullness of the Time** was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman...

1 Corinthians 9:

- 17** For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a **dispensation of the gospel** is committed unto me.

Paul says, “There is not getting around it – the Gospel of the Kingdom is going to all the world.”

And, the world’s theologians have one dispensation correct!!! “Grace” [Though ‘grace’ means to them, license to sin and sin with impunity. They do not understand God’s mercy and benevolence.]

Ephesians 3:

- 2** If ye have heard of the **dispensation of the grace of God** which is given me to you-ward:

The dispensation of the **gospel** and the dispensation of the **grace** of God fall within the **Fullness of Times**. ‘Gospel’ and ‘Grace,’ they are synonymous with the **Fullness of Times**. A dispensation is period of God's increasing involvement during a particular time period in the history of the Plan of God. We will note that there is some modification in God's method of dealing with His Plan for man in each dispensation.



1 Past Infinity

See the Infinity Chart which is our chronological working list – which is read from Top Down, not left to right. The very few Scriptures listed are sample verses – mile markers – in the dispensation timeline.

God has always existed:

Plan of God

The Plan of God is revealed by God's Holy Days in Leviticus 23.

John 1:

- 1 In the beginning was the Word [Jesus Christ], and the Word was with **God** [the Father], and the **Word was God**.

Jesus Christ has always been God.

John 1:

- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- 4 In him was **life**; and the life was the **light of men**.
- 5 And the **light** [God's Truth] shone in darkness; and the **darkness** [Satan's way] comprehended it not.

Angelic Creation

Hebrews 1:

- 14 [Angles] are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

Job 38:

- 7 When the morning stars [angles] sang together, and all the sons of God [angles] shouted for joy?

Colossians 1:

- 16 For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers [angelic offices or positions]: all things were created by Him, and for Him:

There is way more of creation that is invisible, than there is that is visible to our physical eyes.

Creation of the Physical Universe

This is the Beginning of the Physical Creation for mankind:

Hebrews 1:

- 2 [God] has in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds [all the ages of the universe];

Angelic Rebellion

Isaiah 14:12-15 and Ezekiel 28:12-18.

With Satan's rebellion everything became *Tohu, Bohu* and *Choshek*. [*Choshek*, darkness, is pronounced kho-shek]

Genesis 1:

- 2 And the earth was without form, and void; and **darkness** was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
- 3 God said, Let there be **light**: and there was **light**.

1 Peter 1:

- 19 But with the precious **blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

Foundation of the World

Jesus knew from the foundation of the world that He would have to shed His blood for our salvation – and that of all men.

1 Peter 1:

- 20 Who verily was foreordained before the **foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you,
- 21 Who by Him [Jesus Christ] do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

#2 Re-Creation

The face of the earth is renewed for the habitation of mankind:

Genesis 1:

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Creation of Mankind

Genesis 1:

26 And God said, Let us make [begin the process of creating] man in our image, after our likeness: ...

That statement encompasses the entire Plan of God – because the Plan of God is to create man in His image – and to be in the eternal family of God.

We are **not** yet in the image of God. That will take place at the end of #4 on this Infinity Chart – at our resurrection.

God is not becoming like man – we are to become like God.

Genesis 1:

27 So God **created man** in His own image [our ultimate destiny], in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them.

28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

God began the process of reproducing Himself in this way.

Beginning of the Spiritual Creation for Mankind

Genesis 2:

2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and He **rested** on the **seventh day** from all his work which he had made.

3 And God blessed the seventh day, and **sanctified it**:

God set the Sabbath Day apart from the other days of the week – and He made it holy time – for spiritual purposes.

Garden of Eden

Genesis 2:

8 And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

Tree of Life

It is important to be able to visualize the chronological Plan of God and to be able to understand how God is working things out. That is what this Infinity Chart should help with.

Genesis 2:

- 9** And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the **tree of life** also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Satan's Lie

Genesis 3:

- 4** And the serpent said unto the woman, **Ye shall not surely die:** [Origin of the myth of the immortal soul in man]
- 5** For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Garden of Eden Vacated

Genesis 3:

- 24** So [God] drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Mankind no longer had direct access to the Spirit of God.

#3 Fall of Man

Man chooses to go his own way – rather than be obedient to God.

Man Sins

God allows mankind to go on for **6000 years** – [without His Kingdom and Rule] – doing things his own way – following Satan the god of this world.

A veil of sin comes over mankind. A cover of darkness envelopes man. Man's very nature is changed now clouded in darkness.

Isaiah 25:

7 ...the **covering** cast over all people, and the **vail** that is spread over all nations.

Man's mind is dulled by darkness and ignorance – when men should be brilliant geniuses if we used all our brain.

Genesis 3:

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she **took of the** [forbidden] **fruit thereof**, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked...

That 'eye openness' was an **earthly awareness** – which in fact blinded man to the Wisdom of God – causing man to be worthy of death and in need of a Savior.

Prophecy of the Coming Messiah

God said:

Genesis 3:

15 I will put enmity between thee [serpent] and the woman [Church], and between thy seed [children of the world John 8:44] and her seed [Messiah]; it shall bruise thy head [Messiah will ultimately dispose of Satan], and thou shalt bruise his [Jesus Christ's] heel.

The crucifixion was only temporary in that God the Father raised Jesus from the dead.

Man Cast Out of the Garden

Genesis 3:

23 Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden...

24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the **Garden of Eden** Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

God would not allow man to obtain eternal life in a rebellious state of sin against Him.

That seems to be the end of the Garden of Eden, but it is not.

Jumping way ahead of the story line – with the reign of Jesus Christ ruling the Kingdom of God – we will see that in the Millennium the entire earth will be developed into the veritable **Garden of Eden** – and of course that will be after the Great Tribulation.

Joel 2:

- 3** ... the land is as the **Garden of Eden** before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness...

Family of Mankind

Genesis 4 – Population increases rapidly and dramatically fulfilling

Genesis 1:

- 28** ...Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth.

Sin of Cain

Leads up to world destruction.

The Great Flood

Genesis 6:

- 5** And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
- 6** And it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart.

But God is faithful in that He did not wipe man out completely.

Genesis 6:

- 7** And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repents me that I have made them.
- 8** But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

God saves Noah and his family.

Genesis 8:

- 1** And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters assuaged;

God's Covenant with Abraham

Genesis 15:

18 In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram.

Covenant Sacrifice

Genesis 15:

17 And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces.

Jesus, Himself, passes between the pieces of the Sacrificial Covenant – that is, He made the covenant that only He can bring to pass. This was a unilateral agreement – God promised to do something.

Jesus said in effect to Abraham – “I will give my life to bring this Covenant to fruition.”

#4 Fullness of Time

The fullness of the time begins with the **first** coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh.

Galatians 4:

- 4 But when the **fullness of the time** was come, God sent forth his Son [Jesus Christ], made of a woman...

All things are being done in a timely manner by God:

The **Holy Days** open the meaning of the Plan of God to us.

Luke 22:

- 14 And when the hour was come, [Jesus] sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him.

Passover

Luke 22:

- 15 And He said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this **Passover** with you before I suffer:

Jesus died for sinners – and we are told that we must put sin out of our lives.

Unleavened Bread

1 Corinthians 5:

- 7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:
8 Therefore let us keep the Feast ... with the **unleavened bread** of sincerity and truth.

So we see the **Holy Days** begin to unfold the **Plan of God** before our eyes.

Church Era begins

Jesus Christ establishes the Assembly of Called out Ones who are led by His Spirit.

Pentecost

Acts 2:

- 1 And when the day of **Pentecost** was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

Acts 2:

- 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.

Today, we are approaching 2000 years of Church history:

Sons of God to Glory

Here we find the very purpose of the Church of God.

Hebrews 2:

10 For it became him [Jesus Christ], for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in **bringing many sons** [and daughters] **unto glory**.

This is where we are now on the vast Infinity Chart.

Put a star * on your Infinity Chart at this point.

The next major event in God's order of laying out His Plan is:

The Great Tribulation

Matthew 24:

21 For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

A huge majority of all the world's population is slated to die soon.

Physical Remnant Preserved

Matthew 24:

22 And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved alive: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.

First Resurrection of the Saints

1 Thessalonians 4:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

#5 Millennium

Jesus establishes the Kingdom of God on earth and He begins to reign and rule.

We come next to the Feast of Trumpets:

Trumpets

The return of Christ as Messiah over the nations.

Zechariah 14:

- 3 Then shall the Lord go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle.
- 4 And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives...

Atonement

Satan is bound and the covering vail is lifted.

Revelation 20:

- 1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.
- 2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,
- 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more.

Millennium

Feast of Tabernacles

This **Feast of Tabernacles** pictures the next 1000 years. This is why we are observing and celebrating the Great Fall Harvest.

Revelation 20:

- 4 ... they lived and **reigned with Christ a thousand years.**

Picture this: Wave after wave of generations of families led by God's Holy Spirit for a thousand years.

God's Spirit Poured out on all mankind

Joel 2:

- 28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh...
- 29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my **Spirit**. [God says.]

Entire Earth like the Garden of Eden

The earth will be perfected and beautified by the end of the Millennium.

Isaiah 51:

- 3** For the LORD shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will **make her wilderness like Eden**, and her desert like the **garden of the Lord**; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.

This is after Satan's wrath.

Ezekiel 36:

- 34** And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by.

For example, the Bombing of Dresden, Germany the capital of the German state of Saxony, that took place in the final months of the Second World War resulted in a firestorm that destroyed 15 square miles of the city. Over 20,000 people were killed.

The atomic bombings of the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan left approximately a quarter of a million dead and the cities annihilated.

Now think of the **entire world** with this degree of desolation. It will all be made new.

Ezekiel 36:

- 35** And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the **Garden of Eden**; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited.

There are so many physical aspects of the creation of a Godly society shown in the Scriptures - roads, agriculture, education, health, Holy Days etc., that point to and facilitate or enhance the spiritual development of mankind when the face of the earth is renewed.

Earth Full of the Knowledge of the Lord

Isaiah 11:

- 9** ...The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

Thy Kingdom Come

Jesus taught His disciples to pray for this day.

Matthew 6:

- 10** Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

#6 Judgment

Acts 17:

- 31 Because [God the Father] has appointed a day, in the which **He will judge the world** in righteousness by that man [Jesus Christ] whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead.

Last Great Day

This **Holy Day** pictures the Time of final **Judgment**

Isaiah 65:

- 20 There shall be no more thence an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days: for the child shall die an **hundred years old**; but the sinner being an hundred years old shall be accursed.
- 21 And they shall build houses [perhaps 20 billion homes], and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them.

The earth will be in Millennial Peace.

Isaiah 65:

- 25 The **wolf and the lamb** shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord.

All who have ever lived will live Again

Revelation 20:

- 5 But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.

Great White Throne Judgment

Revelation 20:

- 11 And I saw a **Great White Throne**, and Him that sat on it.

The Books were Opened

Revelation 20:

- 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the **books were opened**: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

Resurrection to Life – or to Judgment

Jesus prophesied:

John 5:

- 28** Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,
29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of judgment.

The incorrigibly wicked will be judged.

Lake of Fire

Revelation 20:

- 15** And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the **lake of fire.**

#7 All in All

Remember when we saw:

Ephesians 1:

- 10** That in the dispensation of the Fullness of Times He [God the Father] might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in Him [God the Father]:

We can now begin to understand this part: He might gather together in one - even in Him. This is speaking of the completion of the Plan of God – when **ALL** things will be brought under God the Father.

At this point Jesus' work is complete.

1 Corinthians 15:

- 25** For [Jesus] must reign, till He has put all enemies under His feet.
26 The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.
27 For He [Jesus Christ] has put all things under His feet. [Except God the Father] But when he saith all things are put under Him, it is manifest that He [God the Father] is excepted, which did put all things under Him.
28 And when **all** things shall be subdued unto Him, then shall the Son also Himself be subject unto Him [God the Father] that put all things under Him, that God may be **all in all**.

No more Earth

Revelation 21:

- 1** And I saw a new heaven and a new earth.

Wow – even the oceans have evaporated – that is awesome!

Brand New Heaven and New Earth

2 Peter 3:

- 11** Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy **conversation and godliness**,
13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for **new heavens and a new earth**, wherein dwells righteousness.
14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

New Jerusalem

Revelation 21:

- 2** And I John saw the holy city, **new Jerusalem**, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

- 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Forever and Ever:

Revelation 11:

- 15 ... The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign **forever and ever**.

There Shall be No End

Isaiah 9:

- 7 Of the increase of His Realm and peace **there shall be no end**, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth **even forever**. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Micah 4:

- 7 ... and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from **henceforth, even for ever**.

We will be God in God and fill the universe – and then **there is an eternal beyond**.

Revelation 21:

- 3 And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Infinity and Beyond ->

End: Infinity and Beyond